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search for gold. Mr. S. C. Dunn, of the Geological Department of Gordon College, informs me that the alluvial gold deposits on the Abyssinian border show evidences of ancient working and are still worked successfully. He suggests these deposits as the most probable origin for the gold in use in Kerma in the Middle Empire. This may well be; but the great question of ancient marts and trade routes awaits further material for research. We know almost nothing of the process of exchanges by which alluvial gold from Abyssinia might reach Dongola. A hint perhaps may be found in Mungo Parke's descriptions of the Central African markets and trading caravans; but from Dongola to Assuan the road is known to have been open, and what was common in Dongola would soon appear in the markets of Assuan — gold nuggets and bars for worked gold, or, in

bad harvests, for Egyptian grain. Probably even in the Old Empire the province had a reputation for being rich in gold. This reputation gained in the market at Assuan was, I believe, the great causal factor in the Egyptian invasions and conquests of Upper Nubia, which passed over Lower Nubia almost without leaving a trace. The Egyptians came into the Sudan, following up not only the Nile but the stream of gold which came down that ancient trade route.

Finally, it is clear that the scientific examination of Dongola and Halfa provinces promises a great material on the relations of Egypt and Nubia and on the Nile traffic of ancient times. Much will be revealed which will enrich the history of the whole valley and much which will help an insight into the ways of man in primitive conditions.
G. A. R.



Madonna and Child
Baranaba da Modena (Circ. 1375)
Gift of Mrs. W. Scott Fitz

Recent Gifts

MRS. W. SCOTT FITZ has offered renewed proof of her interest in the Museum by her recent gift of three pictures by Primitive Italian artists, one of which is reproduced above. The

remaining panels are a head of the Magdalen by Segna di Buonaventura and a portrait of a Saint, of the School of Simone Martini. The panels have been installed in the first Picture Gallery.

To Mrs. Fitz also the Museum is in part indebted for the Parian marble head of a goddess recently acquired. The work is a Greek original of the fourth century B. C. It is shown in the Second Marble Room, and although much mutilated is a worthy companion piece to the bust of a goddess from Chios in the same gallery.

Class Gifts in the Public Schools

THE Woman's Education Association has asked the coöperation of the Museum in aiding the teachers of the Boston public schools to give advice to graduating classes regarding their gifts to the schools. Upon the suggestion of the Association, an exhibition by Boston firms of color prints, ceramics, bronzes and other objects suitable for such gifts, was held at the Museum on October 30, November 6 and November 13. Many teachers and pupils viewed the exhibition and listened to explanatory talks. It is hoped in this way to raise the artistic level of the gifts from future graduating classes.

Thursday Conferences, 1916

THE Conferences are held in the galleries of the Museum. They begin at 3 o'clock, and the audience is asked to be seated at that hour. For tickets apply to the Supervisor of Education, enclosing a stamped and addressed envelope and specifying the conferences it is desired to hear, in order of preference. Tickets do not exempt the holder from paying admission to the Museum, and are limited in number to the capacity of the